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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	59th Labor Service (TP) Battalion and the Labor Service NCO School in Bilina	DATE DISTR.	August 1, 1956
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

[redacted] a report on the 59th Labor Service (TP) Battalion and the TP NCO School in Bilina (N 50-32, E 13-48).¹ Major Svido is reported as the CO of the 59th TP Battalion. The report includes a sketch showing the location of the installations of the two units in Bilina.

Comment: The 66th TP Battalion was previously reported in Bilina.

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25X1

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1. The 59th Technical Battalion numbers about 600 - 700 men who are divided among six companies. Three companies work at Zatec, Duchcov and Teplice; other three companies work at unknown locations. The recruits inducted into the battalion in the fall of 1954 belonged from 60 per cent to the year class 1934, 15 per cent to the year-class 1933 and 25 per cent to the year-classes 1932-1928. These recruits had three weeks of basic military training before they were sent to their labor assignments. The battalion was equipped with rifles Model 98-N and submachine guns of the old 9-mm model.
2. The NCO school in Bilina did not belong to the 59th Battalion, although both units were subordinate to the Prague HQ of military labor units. The number of students in the school year beginning in November 1954 was around 300; they were mostly recommended by their respective District Military Commands because of their political reliability.

3. Personnel

Major Svido (fnu), commanding officer of the 59th Technical Battalion.

Capt. Kaba (fnu), chief of staff of the 59th TP.

Legend for the sketch

1. Old, thick wall surrounding the area of barracks.
2. Four-storied building in the western corner of the barracks; basement, 1st and 2nd floors used as quarters, 3rd and 4th floors used as offices for the 59th TP.
3. Four-storied building, 40 x 25 m; quarters for about 500 enlisted men.
4. Ground-floor, masonry building, 25 x 15 m; equipment store. 25X1
5. Two-storied building, 15 x 15 m; quarters for about 150 men. 25X1
All the above buildings are very old and in a bad condition.
6. NCO school; four buildings arranged in a rectangle. Southern part is four-storied, about 50 x 15 m, and contains men's quarters. Western part is four-storied, about 100 x 20 m, with an underpass in the middle; street floor contains offices, lecture rooms, ARMA canteen; upper floors are used as men's quarters. Northern wing is a ground-floor, 50 x 10 m large building and is used as workshops and stables. Eastern wing is three-storied; ground floor contains kitchen, messhall and food stores; upper floors are used as men's quarters. The barracks are in poor condition; their billeting capacity is about 1000 men.

25X1

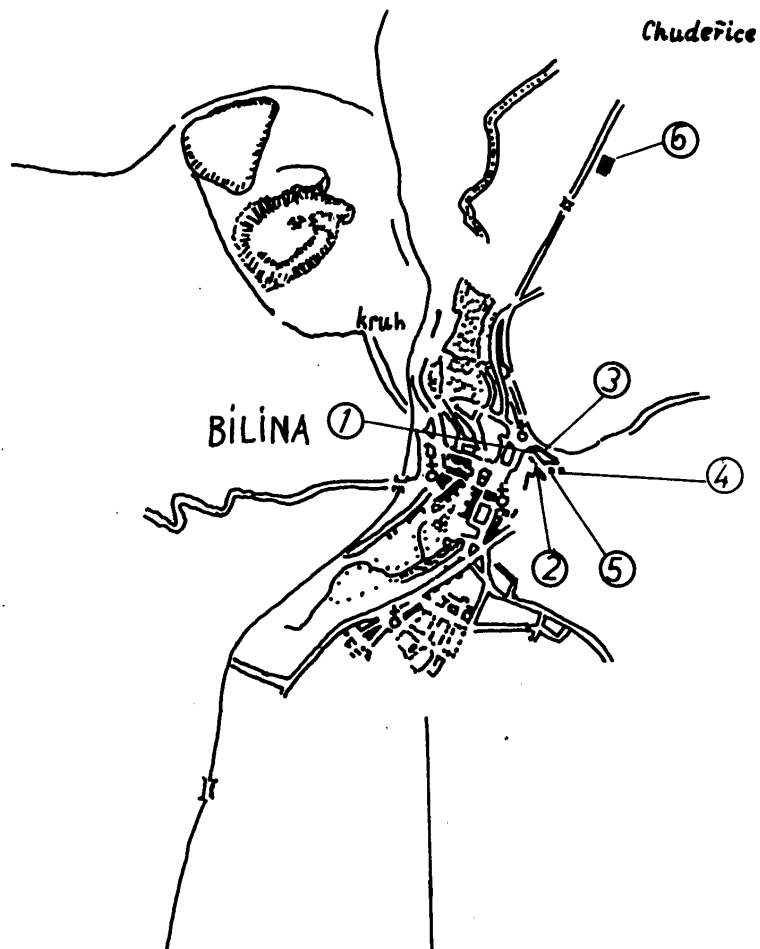
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